

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Suong-Hyu HYON et al.

Serial No.: 08/640,738

Filed: May 6, 1996



MAR 10 1999

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: T. Nguyen

For: ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE MOLDED ARTICLE FOR  
ARTIFICIAL JOINTS AND METHOD OF PREPARING THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND**  
**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 12, 1999

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These documents were cited in a Supplementary Search Report for a corresponding European application. One copy of each of these documents and a copy of the Supplementary Search Report are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance.

The undersigned hereby certifies

XX that each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, or

       that no item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication

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from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO-1449, European Search Report and 3 documents